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Constitution of the State of Jefferson.

State Historical and
Natural History Society
DENVER, COLORADO
ACCESSION NO. 7296

Constitution

We the people of the State of Jefferson
do ordain and establish the
following Constitution framed by our delegates
in Convention first assembled on the Seventh day of
June Anno Domini One thousand eight hundred and
fifty nine and reassembled on the first day of
August in the same year.

Artical II

Boundaries

The Boundaries of the State of Jefferson shall
be as follows

Commencing at the point of intersection
of the one hundred and second degree of Longitude west from
Greenwich with the Forty third degree of North Latitude
thence running west on said parallel of Latitude
to its intersection with the One hundred and tenth
degree of Longitude west from Greenwich - thence South
on said parallel of Longitude to its intersection with
the Thirty Seventh degree of North Latitude - thence
East on said parallel of Latitude to its intersection
with the One Hundred and second degree of Longitude
west from Greenwich - thence North on said

parallel of Longitude to its intersection with the Forty third degree of North Latitude, the place of beginning.

Article II Bill of Rights

Section 1 All men are by nature free and independent and have certain inalienable rights among which are those of ~~enjoying~~ enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

Sec 2nd All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection security and benefit of the people and they have the right to alter or reform the same whenever the public good may require it

Sec 3 The free exercise and enjoyment of religious professions and worship without discrimination or preference shall forever be allowed; and no person shall be rendered incompetent as a witness on account of his opinions on matters of religious beliefs; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the state

Sec 4 Every citizen may speak write and publish his sentiments on all subjects being responsible for the abuse of that right; and no law shall be passed to restrain

or abridge the liberty of speech or the press.

Sec 5 The people shall have the right peaceably to assemble together to consult for the common good, to instruct their representatives and to petition the Legislature for redress of grievances.

Sec 6 The right of trial by jury shall be secured to all and remain inviolate forever, but a trial by jury may be waived by the parties in all civil cases in the manner to be ~~provided~~ prescribed by law

Sec 7 No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offence unless on the presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases of impeachment or in cases Cognizable by justices of the peace or arising in the army or navy, or in the ~~militia~~ when in actual service in time of war or public danger; and no person for the same offence shall be put twice in jeapardy of punishment, nor shall be compelled in any criminal cause to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life liberty, property or privileges, out-lawed, exiled or in any manner disfranchised except by due process of law.

Sec 8 The privilege of the writ of habeas Corpus shall not be suspended unless when in cases of rebellion

or invasion the public safety may require it

Sec 9 All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or presumption great.

Sec 10 Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed nor shall cruel or unusual punishments be inflicted— nor shall witnesses be unreasonably detained

Sec 11 There shall be no imprisonment for debt. The privilege of the debtor to enjoy the necessary comforts of life shall be recognized by wholesome laws exempting a reasonable amount of property from seizure or sale for the payment of any liability hereafter contracted.

Sec 12 All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation

Sec 13 No bill of attainder, ex post facto law or law impairing the obligation of contracts shall ever be passed

Sec 14 The military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power. No standing army shall be

kept up in time of peace – no soldier shall be quartered in any house except by consent of the owner, unless in time of war and then only in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec 15 Representation shall be apportioned according to population. All elections shall be free and equal.

Sec 16 The property of no person shall be taken for public use without just Compensation therefor

Sec 17 No distinction shall ever be made by law between resident aliens and citizens in reference to the possession, enjoyment or descent of property.

Sec 18 The right of the people to be secure in their persons houses papers and effects, against unreasonable seizures and searches shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but on probable cause supported by oath or affirmation particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons and things to be seized.

Sec 19 Treason against the state shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies or giving them aid and comfort — No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act or confession in open Court.

Sec 20 Writs of error shall never be prohibited by law

Sec 21 This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others retained by the people